



MANPOWER,  
RESERVE AFFAIRS  
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OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

8 APR 1981

Defense Energy Program Policy Memorandum (DEPPM) 81-4

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SPECIAL ASSISTANTS FOR ENERGY OF THE MILITARY  
SERVICES  
THE DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES

SUBJECT: Building and Hot Water Temperature Restrictions

PURPOSE. This is to provide guidance to continue temperature restrictions for heating and cooling Department of Defense (DoD) buildings and for hot water. DEPPMs 79-10 and 80-2 are hereby cancelled.

BACKGROUND. The Emergency Building Temperature Restrictions were imposed on July 16, 1979, and twice extended. These restrictions applied to both the private and public sectors with some exceptions. On February 17, 1981, in Proclamation 4820, the President rescinded the restrictions. He did not address section 101-20.116-3 of the Federal Property Management Regulations (FPMR), which require cooling and heating season temperature limitations in all federal buildings.

POLICY. The military services and defense agencies that own, operate, or otherwise control buildings shall comply with the lower temperature restrictions contained in the enclosure (65° heating/78° cooling). Hot water limitations (105°) remain in effect, although not specifically mentioned in the FPMR. The procedures, methodology for measurement, exemptions, and exclusions outlined in the DoE booklet, "How to Comply With the Emergency Building Temperature Restrictions," as amended by the January 26, 1981, Federal Register, shall be used to govern this program, except as outlined below:

- No compliance certificates need be posted or filed. The facilities engineer (or equivalent), however, must specifically authorize excluded and exempted buildings and be prepared to explain any exceptions.

- There are no reports required.
- Inspections should be incorporated into the regular internal and external inspection system of each military service and defense agency.
- Installation commanders may establish "hot line" systems to report temperature violations. There is no central system.
- The military services and defense agencies may grant temperature limits of 68° for heating to any building, organization, or installation which is below the two percent/year energy reduction per square foot glide path, as measured by metering. Exceptions will not be granted to units which are above the glide path.
- Individual heaters are not permitted except where ambient temperatures consistently fall below the limitations. Individual heaters should be the radiant type when authorized.
- Individual fans for ventilation are permitted.
- If temperature limitations are applied to any type of housing, they will be applied equally to all housing.
- To determine thermostat settings, the coldest space in heating season and the warmest space during cooling season shall be a regularly occupied space.
- Contrary to some notions, there is no threat to health to normal persons of any age from working, sleeping, or daily living under these restrictions. Previously provided rules governing the program granted exceptions to people with documented health problems. These remain in effect. Comfort issues are solved by individuals dressing appropriately. The GSA brochures "Keeping Warm" and "Keeping Cool" provide helpful hints for comfortable dress in each season.

ENFORCEMENT. The purpose of these restrictions is to save energy. The unnecessary administrative burdens of the program have now been removed. Vigorous enforcement of these restrictions is mandatory to prevent previously common violations and the attempt to circumvent the intent of the policy. The military services are requested to provide copies of implementing guidance to the Defense Energy Policy Office within 30 days of this DEPPM.

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Enclosure

cc: DASD(I&H)